PRESS RELEASE – Jan. 14, 2016

Aquatic Park: 972-624-2225

New filtration system installed at Aquatic Park

THE COLONY, Texas — The New Year has brought with it a brand new water filtration system for The Colony Aquatic Park.

Installation of the state-of-the-art mechanical system for the Aquatic Park's indoor lap swimming pool began the morning of Jan. 4. The new system includes:

- Neptune Benson high-rate sand filter system;
- Pentair circulation pump;
- ETS ultraviolet system;
- energy efficient Variable Frequency Drive; and,
- BECsys5 chemical controller.

The Neptune Benson system is made of fiberglass and uses industry-leading Mystic White filter sand, which will filter particles from the water smaller than a human hair. The new circulation pump is a 15-horsepower pump capable of providing more than adequate flow to meet the demands of the heavily used pool.

The frequency drive will provide protection to the circulation pump from electrical disturbances, regulate the flow of the pump based on the filtration needs, and will provide savings on electrical usage. Ultraviolet technology has proven to help provide protection against organisms that typical chlorine systems have problems destroying, while at the same time removing chlorine byproducts, making the water and air safer. The UV system is used in conjunction with chlorine.

Lastly, the chemical controller will provide 24-hour monitoring and control of chemical levels in the pool. It will make adjustments in pH and chlorine based on the requirements of the water at any particular time, and will also provide remote access so that staff members may monitor conditions 24 hours a day.

The project began with removal of the old filter, which had been in operation for 20 years. City staff recognized the need in advance and ordered assembly of the new system back in early November 2015. Knox said it takes about seven weeks for production and rigging required to meet the facility's specifications.

She also wanted to make sure it would be shipped from the plant in Rhode Island ahead of any potential winter storms that might delay transport.

"The old filter looked better than I thought it would look," said Elise Knox, Aquatic Park Manager. "But our timing could not have been better. A failure could have closed the pool for months while waiting for the new filters to be built."

Knox was thankful for good daytime weather last week as there were no delays to placement of the larger components of the new system. The project remained on schedule so an electrician could connect the pump on Jan. 8.

During the facility's week-long closure, staff members made use of the time by sanitizing and repainting the restrooms and lockers to give them an updated look. With all troubleshooting completed, the pool reopened on Jan. 13.

###